

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 DHA-02 /074 W
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R 271357Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9393
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 WARSAW 5239

EO 11652GDS
TAGS: PINR PINT PL
SUBJ: WORKERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE ANNOJNCEMENT

REF: A. WARSAW 5115, B. WARSAW 5010, C. STATE 174352

1. SUMMARY: WORKERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
RELEASED THEIR 12TH COMMUNIQUE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE
JULY 26. THE COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED TWO NEW WDC MEMBERS
AND ONE RESIGNATION. THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS GAVE
VAGUE ANSWERS ABOUT THEIR FUTURE ACTIVITIES.
MEANWHILE, EDITORIALS IN THE MAJOR POLISH DAILIES
SUBTLY CALLED FOR AN END TO THE ACTIVITIES WHICH
TRIGGERED THE CONFLICT WITH THE LAW. END SUMMARY.

2. A WESTERN CORRESPONDENT WHO ATTENDED A PRESS CON-
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ERENCE ON JULY 26 GIVEN BY WORKERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE
MEMBERS JAZEK KURON, ADAM MICHNIK, ANTONI MACIERIEWICZ,
AND WOJCIECH OSTROWSKI SAID THEY ALL LOOKED HEALTHY,
ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT NERVOUS. WHEN ASKED ABOUT FUTURE
ACTIVITIES OF THE WDC, KURON REPLIED THAT THE ANSWER
DEPENDDED ON THE ACTIONS OF THE AUTHORITIES. HE HOPED
THAT LIPINSKI'S MEETING WITH ROZWENS OF THE PROCURATOR

GENERAL'S OFFICE (REF A) WOULD PROVE TO BE THE START OF A "DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE AUTHORITIES AND SOCIETY." KURON SAID AT LEAST TWO OF THE FIVE WORKERS REMAINING IN PRISON FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE JUNE, 1976, PRICE-RISE RIOTS HAD BEEN RELEASED. HE BELIEVES MORE WERE RELEASED, BUT ARE PROHIBITED FROM CONTACTING THE WDC.

3. THE MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE 12TH WDC COMMUNIQUE, DATED JULY 24, PASSED OUT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ARE:
A) WOJCIECH ZIEMBINSKI ASKED TO BE TEMPORARILY RELIEVED OF HIS DUTIES BECAUSE OF HIS ACTIVITIES WITH THE MOVEMENT FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS; ZIEMBINSKI ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THE WDC'S ACTIVITIES TO DATE, AND HE WILL PARTICIPATE IN SETTling ACCOUNTS WHEN THE WDC COMPLETES ITS OPERATIONS; B) TWO PEOPLE HAVE JOINED THE WDC: FATHER ZBIGNIEW KAMINSKI, FORMERLY A CHAPLAIN IN THE POLISH HOME ARMY, AND PROF. JAN KIELANOWSKI, A WELL-KNOWN GENETIC BIOLOGIST AND A MEMBER OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCE;

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C) HENRYK BEDNARCZYK OF RADOM WAS RETRIED ON JULY 1;

HE WAS THE FIRST WORKER ACQUITTED OF CHARGES RELATED TO THE JUNE EVENTS; IT WAS THE FIRST TRIAL WHERE THE TESTIMONY OF A POLICEMAN WAS RULED INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE; D) MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC INTELLIGENTSIA CLUBS (KIK) PROTESTED TO CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE HENRYK JABLONSKI THAT KIK MEMBERS WOJCIECH ARKUSZEWSKI AND WOJCIECH OSTROWSKI WERE DENIED BIBLES AND THE RIGHT TO WORSHIP WHILE THEY WERE HELD UNDER PROTECTIVE CUSTODY FOR THEIR COLLABORATION WITH THE WDC; E) A LETTER OF SOLIDARITY WAS SENT TO THE WDC BY 97 MINERS FROM GLIWICE; F) KURT WALDHEIM RECEIVED A LETTER FROM WDC MEMBER LIPSKI DURING HIS VISIT TO POLAND (REF B) WHICH HE PASSED ON TO THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AND G) JUST BEFORE THEY WERE RELEASED, THE WDC MEMBERS HEARD NEW ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THEM UNDER ARTICLE

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271 AND 273 (SPREADING FALSE INFORMATION HARMFUL TO THE POLISH STATE) OF THE PENAL CODE. IN ADDITION, KURON AND MICHNIK WERE ACCUSED OF RECIDIVISM, ARTICLE 68 P. 1.

4. TRYBUNA LUDU AND ZYCIE WARSZAWY CARRIED EDITORIALS ON JULY 26 PRAISING THE COUNCIL OF STATE'S AMNESTY DECREE AS AN ACT OF "MAGNANIMITY" AND "SOCIALIST HUMANITARIANISM". TRYBUNA LUDU SAID THAT ALL THOSE WHO BENEFIT FROM THE DECREE ARE OBLIGED TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT THAT THEY "GIVE UP THE ACTIVITIES WHICH LED THEM TO BE IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW." ZYCIE WARSZAWY SAID THAT THE LAST PARTICIPANTS OF THE JUNE, 1976, RIOTS WERE RELEASED ON THE BASIS OF A PARDON FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE. IT SAID THE PEOPLE WHO RECENTLY "MADE NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS TO DAMAGE THE COUNTRY AND SOCIETY" WERE RELEASED BY SPECIAL AUTHORITY DELEGATED BY THE AMNESTY DECREE TO THE PROCURATOR GENERAL IN AGREEMENT WITH THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE. THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT AMNESTY IS NOT AUTOMATIC, BUT RATHER A CHANCE TO BE ACQUITTED BY RETURNING TO SOCIETY.

5. COMMENT: BOTH THE AUTHORITIES AND THE WDC ARE BEHAVING CAREFULLY. WHILE THE WDC MEMBERS TOLD NEWSMEN THEY WOULD ACCEPT NO CONDITIONS FOR THEIR RELEASE, THEY APPEAR TO HAVE DECIDED AGAINST CONFRONTATION NOW. HOWEVER, THE ADDITION OF TWO NEW MEMBERS TO THE WDC AND THE 12TH COMMUNIQUE'S DEMAND FOR A SEJM INVESTIGATION OF THE JUNE EVENTS AND APPEAL FOR INFORMATION ARE INDICATIONS THAT FURTHER ACTIVITY IS PLANNED. END COMMENT.
DAVIES

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